



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brian Hill

Weapons Load Crew of the Month

The 80th Fighter Squadron won the Load Crew of the Month competition Oct. 12. The winners were 80th Fighter Squadron load crew chiefs Staff Sgt. Caleb Dollar (middle), senior airmen Blake Ferguson (left) and Andrew Jackson (front), weapons load crew chiefs. The competition is held monthly to spotlight Kunsans best weapons load crew.

Gulf War illness discussed at Kunsan

*By 1st Lt. Miki Kristina Krejcarek
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

A team from the Office of the Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Gulf War Illnesses visited Kunsan Oct. 12.

More than 50 Wolf Pack members attended at the base theater to hear the latest information of ongoing military medical readiness stemming from the Gulf War and initiatives to protect the future health of forces during deployments.

The information was key for Kunsan members since the base is considered a forward deployed location because of its immediate threats.

"Department of Defense is working to track possible environmental exposures to troops while on deployment and to serve as a central repository for concerns troops may have," said Col. Margaret Matarese, 8th Medical Group commander. "Wolf Pack members can be assured that DOD is committed to protecting military members and identifying hazards where they exist."

Kunsan was one of various stops in Pacific Air Forces visited to gather information from and communicate with leadership, health care providers and service members on deployment health.

"Feedback about medical issues is very important and that's why we're here," said Dr. Michael Kilpatrick. "The primary reason is to give feedback to the policy makers on what things are going well and what things aren't going well

when it comes to deployment health."

Kilpatrick discussed several DOD medical strategies to include deployment exposure observations such as food, water and environment; deployment health surveillance of force to prevent mission ineffectiveness; force health protection including current methods of preventative health; immunizations and vaccine information; and medical record keeping to ensure documents are kept to record trends in health.

Kilpatrick also talked about how preventative health assessments and screening of troops before, during and after deployments are critical to determining certain health trends. PHAs are a yearly screening of the health of individuals. The information is gathered from questions regarding such things as diet and exercise to cholesterol levels.

"People can look at these documents 20 years from now from a research perspective and determine what to do today to help in the future," Kilpatrick said.

"Our role is to advise the Under Secretary of Defense by coming out and taking a look at what's going on during a deployment and how things are being executed," he said. "We're out here to gather how the implementation is going on and what can be done better to ensure that people have the right tools, information and materials to help them do a better job," he said.

Information on force health issues can be found at the website <http://deploymentlink.osd.mil>, or <http://www.gulfink.osd.mil>.

Education center gets facelift

*By Staff Sgt. Heather Shelton
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

Members of the 8th Mission Support Squadron base education office spent hours of their free time in an effort to create a more customer-friendly waiting area in the office here.

"We spent about 25 man-hours during two weekends to complete the project," said Staff Sgt. Eric Gergen, 8th Mission Support Squadron NCO-in-charge of base training. "The whole office worked as a team allowing us to get the job done in no time."

According to Gergen, besides the additional duty hours, the approved project only cost the education office a little elbow grease.

"We took advantage of the supplies from our existing office, borrowed

equipment from the base self-help store and the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron, and went to work."

Not only are the members of the education center staff pleased with their work, but customers seem to like it also.

"We have gotten more than 50 comments from customers on the new look," said Gergen. "Looks like our customer-focused mission is accomplished."

"As everyone knows, space is at a premium here, so we need to make the most effective use of it, and that is what we did," said Maj. John McGarrity, 8th Mission Support Squadron commander. "At the same time we made the work place better by 'opening' things up which is also very important."

For more information on educational services provided by the education office, call 782-5148.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Heather Shelton

Snow parade

Snow removal equipment from the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron lined up for a "snow parade" around Kunsan Air Base Wednesday.

Kunsan Air Base upcoming courts-martial schedule

8 a.m. Nov. 1
8 a.m. Nov. 2
8 a.m. Nov. 26
8 a.m. Nov. 29

Courts-martial will be held in Bldg. 755, 3rd Floor. They are open to the public. For more information, call 782-4283.



Senior Airman Mia Toliver

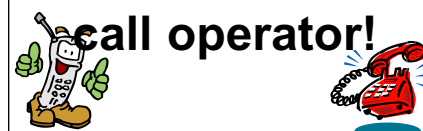


Pride of the Pack

Job: 35th Fighter Squadron commander support staff personnelist
Hometown: Monroe, La.
Follow-on: Yokota Air Base, Japan
Hobbies: Writing poetry, playing softball

Nominees are selected for outstanding service and dedication to their unit. To nominate an individual, contact the member's group commander.

Be a morale call operator!



You get one extra morale call for every four hours you serve!
Call Mr. Choe at 782-4040 for more information.